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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/666,896	09/17/2003	Peter C. Salmon	A-71801/AJT	9084

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EXAMINER

DOAN, PHUOC HUU

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2687

DATE MAILED: 08/10/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	10/666,896	SALMON, PETER C.	
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	PHUOC H. DOAN	2687	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 17 September 2003.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-13 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-7 and 10-13 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☒ Claim(s) 8-9 is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 17 September 2003 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

1. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

2. Claims **1-3, 5-6, and 10-11** are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by **Mault (US Pub No: 2003/0208409)**.

As to claim 1, Mault discloses information retrieval system comprising (Fig. 1): a base station "Fig. 1, item 16" having stored information (col. 5, par. [0046]); wireless communication links between said base station and one or more display stations (col. 5, par. [0047], **a display 28 to show a menu listing**); speech recognition circuits at each of said display stations (col. 5, par. [0058]); and control means such that said system will respond to a user's voice command "**col. 6, par. [0059], voice recognition can be used to enter a menu choice**" by retrieving requested information from said base station and displaying it on said display station (col. 6, par. [0059-0066]).

As to claim 2, Mault further discloses the information retrieval system of claim 1 wherein said wireless communication links "**col. 9, par. 0098**], possibly

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equipped with Bluetooth wireless communication” are bi-directional channelized links that can operate simultaneously without interfering with one another (col. 9, par. [0098]).

As to claim 3, Mault further discloses the information retrieval system of claim 1 wherein said retrieved information includes both visual and aural information (col. 6, par. [0059]).

As to claim 5, Mault further discloses the information retrieval system of claim 1 and including information that is received and relayed to said display stations via said base station, said relayed information including broadcast information “**GPS capability**” and information available on external networks (col. 9, par. [0091-0094]).

As to claim 6, Mault discloses a display station having a wireless link to an information source comprising (Fig. 2): a flexible substrate having light emitting circuits “Fig. 2, col. 5, par. [0047],” imprinted thereon to form a flexible display screen (col. 5, par. [0055]); and electronic circuits mounted on said flexible substrate including speech recognition circuits (col. 5, par. [0058], display drivers, and a radio frequency transceiver “**Fig. 2, item 30**” to implement said wireless link (col. 5, par. [0047]).

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As to claim 10, Mault further discloses the display station of claim 6 wherein said electronic circuits also include the ability to drive sound-generating devices (col. 2, par. [0016]).

As to claim 11, the claim is rejected for the same reason as set forth in claim 1.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

3. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

4. Claim 4 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Mault in view of **Uppaluru (US Pub No: 2002/0080927)**.

As to claim 4, Mault discloses all the limitation in the information retrieval system of claim 1. However, Mault does not disclose including the ability to authenticate users by their voice signature, and further to withhold the display of information if a user is not authenticated.

Uppaluru discloses including the ability to authenticate users by their voice signature, and further to withhold the display of information if a user is not authenticated (col. 1, par. [0002]). Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to provide the ability

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to authenticate users by their voice signature as taught by Uppaluru to the system of Mault in order to access of the information stored in the voice web using voice commands and input.

5. Claim 7 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over xx in view of **Valdes (US Pub No: 2002/0167536)**.

As to claim 7, Mault does not disclose the display station of claim 6 wherein said electronic circuits are contained in a box that hangs below said display screen, causing it to hang straight.

Valdes discloses wherein said electronic circuits are contained in a box that hangs below said display screen, causing it to hang straight (col. 3, par. [0044]. Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to provide the electronic circuits are contained in the box as taught by Valdes to the system of Mault in order to prevent of damage the electronic circuits.

6. Claim 12 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over xx in view of **Vincent (US Pub No: 2004/0095309)**.

As to claim 12, Mault discloses a method for retrieving visual information comprising the following steps (Fig. 1): providing a base station "Fig. 1, item 16" having stored information (col. 5, par. [0046]); providing one or more display stations in wireless communication with said base station (col. 5, par. [0047], **a display 28 to show a menu listing**); commanding by voice said display station

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to request information (col. 5, par. [0055-0058]); viewing said requested information on said extended display (col. 6, par. [0059-0066]). However, Mault does not specifically disclose said display stations having retractable displays; extending one of said retractable displays to an operating position, and retracting said extended display into said display station.

Vincent specifically discloses said display stations having retractable displays (col. 10, par. [0107]); extending one of said retractable displays to an operating position (**col. 9, par. [0100], user convenience it may be advantageous to have a retractable screen**), and retracting said extended display into said display station (col. 8, par. [0091], and col. 9, par. [0100-0101]). Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to provide the display stations having retractable displays as taught by Vincent to the system of Mault in order to make high resolution displays.

7. Claim **13** is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Mault in view of **Blum (US Pub No: 2002/0156634)**.

As to claim 13, Mault does not disclose the method of claim 11 and including the step of listening to aural information provided by said base station and delivered at said display station.

Blum discloses that including the step of listening to aural information provided by said base station and delivered at said display station (See abstract, **voice-responsive display**). Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of

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to aural information as taught by Blum to the system of Mault in order to hear the message by voice-responsive display.

Allowable Subject Matter

8. Claims **8-9** are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

As to claim 8, the prior art of record do not disclose the display station of claim 6, including means for winding up said flexible display screen.

Dependent claim 9 is objected for the same reason.

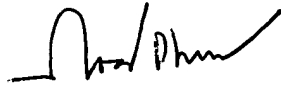
Conclusion

9. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to PHUOC H. DOAN whose telephone number is 571-272-7920. The examiner can normally be reached on 9:30 AM - 6:30 PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, LESTER G. KINCAID can be reached on 571-272-7922. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

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Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).



Phuoc Doan
07/17/05


8/8/05
LESTER G. KINCAID
SUPERVISORY PRIMARY EXAMINER